



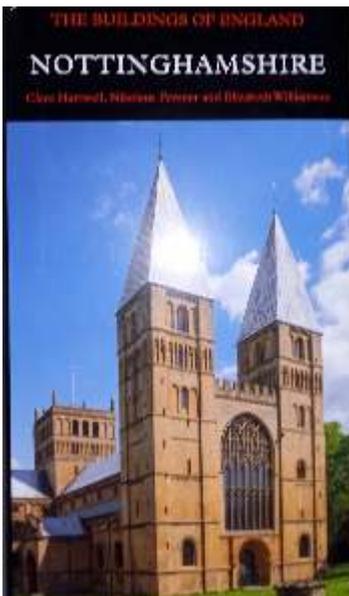
Welcome to our 2021 Newsletter

'May you live in interesting times' so the Chinese curse says and I think we can certainly agree with this expression for 2020! I cannot think of a time since the 2nd World War when an event has impacted so much on our everyday lives. Let us hope that the vaccines are successfully rolled out and life can get back to some sort of normality in the first part of 2021.

Members of the committee have been keeping the Society ticking over and we plan to restart our meetings and outings as soon as it is safe to do so – details of our proposed meetings and visits are in this newsletter.

On behalf of the members and myself, I would like to thank the committee members for their work this year in maintaining the Society and making ready for when we can resume our normal activities.

A special thank you to our President, Chris Weir, for his regular article for our newsletter. I know that you will enjoy his latest offering.



Members can keep themselves up to date with local history by obtaining a copy of the new edition of the Pevsner Nottinghamshire Architectural Guide. The book was written by Nikolaus Pevsner and published in the 1930's and updated in 1950's and 70's. It has recently been revised by historian Clare Hartwell. The book has been reviewed by Christopher Howse in the Saturday Telegraph. Including the obvious for example Southwell Minister, St Mary's in Nottingham, Worksop Priory and more modern buildings of note. It also references less known but

interesting buildings, monuments and people. I have extracted the following from Mr Howse's article: The life –size stone effigy of Sir Thomas Parkyns stands in the attitude of a wrestler at the beginning of a bout, his sturdy legs set apart, toes out, and his hands posed as though showing the length of a fish. The design is the baronet's own, a copy of the figure in the frontispiece of 'The Cornish-Hug Wrestler', which was published in 1713. He was also a collector of stone coffins and a keen architect too, building estate houses and leaving a weirdly bulky tower at Bunny Hall Nottinghamshire. In St Mary's church at Bunny, Parkyns's sculptor has depicted, next to the figure of him as wrestler, Father Time or Death



AGM & Membership News

There will be no AGM this year and the committee have decided that paid-up members of the LHS will automatically carry their membership over into 2021 free of charge.

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Continued overleaf

triumphant in a bout, with the Latin tag *Tempus edax rerum*, - "Time devourer of all things", from Ovid. Under it a couplet reads: "That time at length did throw him it is plain / Who liv'd in hopes that he should rise again".

At All Saints, Strelley, is a monument to John de Strelley, who died in 1501. He lies with a lion at his feet, almost hidden by which are two little figures of a man and a woman telling their beads – bedesmen praying for his soul.

The book was due to be launched in the autumn of 2020 at The Lakeside Art Centre with an exhibition of the book's photo plates. Due to Covid, the exhibition is now rescheduled for this summer.

With book in hand, we can explore and discover our Nottinghamshire heritage anew; something for us all to look forward to in 2021.

Take care and stay safe. - Best Wishes, **John Smith** - Chairman



Questionable survey by Alan

Some geophysics work I did in September this year may be of interest to some of the members particularly as the results are rather amusing! The site I looked at was at Wiverton Hall near Langar in the Vale of Belvoir. Wiverton is an interesting site located on the site of a lost village and has substantial remains of medieval and civil war earthworks.

There is an area of land next to the house which some of the residents of the hall asked me and some of my colleagues to investigate. To this end we carried out an earth resistance survey using



local volunteers – observing social distancing of course!

When I downloaded the results (left) I had to smile at an anomaly in the shape of a giant question mark - how very appropriate as at this stage I have no idea what it is, perhaps the members have some suggestions!

Alan



During the Pandemic.....

Things that Roger and Glynis have learnt

How to Zoom - weekly meetings with friends, board meetings, weekly portrait drawing group, keep fit and dance moves.

How to mute when on Zoom so that your private conversation with the cat is not overheard.

How to remember not to stand up during a Zoom meeting when you are trouserless.

How to shop for anything online - even a case of athletes foot powder (when you only wanted one can)

How, when you are wearing a mask and misted-up glasses, it can be quite hazardous to wander into a china shop.

How, when you happen to sneeze whilst out walking, everyone will move to the opposite side of the road.

Things we have done

Completely re-organised the garage (a 6 day challenge)

Knitted 6 x 7ft scarves (Glynis) and given 5 to friends.

Re-painted kitchen and bedroom

Painted back garden fence Black

Catalogued 200 plus paintings in a database (thanks Kay for setting me up and guidance)

Grown and nurtured 6kg of green tomatoes.

Met with friends for socially distanced walks around Clumber Park, Gedling Country Park, etc

Had front garden conversations with friends and neighbours we had not met before.

Things we shouldn't have done

Baked cakes and then eaten them all, drunk too much wine, watched afternoon television, kept nosing at what the neighbours were doing.

Ordered some Christmas presents online (in November) to later find out the company was based in China (We are still waiting)

Things we wished we had done

Gone to the seaside, gone to see Genesis at Birmingham Indoor Arena and Jules Holland at the Concert Hall. Nottingham

Seen all our families at Christmas.

Ah well ...there's always 2021...



Programme for 2021

Meetings and Summer Outings

We are hopeful that, after we have all had our 'jabs', we will be able to resume normal activities in the not too distant future, picking up where we left off with some of the meetings and outings. Changes could occur!

Brian Howes – The Inns & Beer Houses of Old Nottingham.

A talk about some of the famous and not so famous old Inns and beer houses of Nottingham, once famed for the quality of its fine ales. Hear about some of the interesting old pubs that have been lost in time and the fascinating histories of some of those still open. How the beer house act of 1830 created some fascinating bohemian drinking establishments.



Brian Lund – Edwardian Nottingham in colour.

An illustrated talk featuring a postcard series published between 1904 and 1912. Brian and Rob from Reflections of a Bygone Age will share their adventures in recreating the 125 scenes on which their book Edwardian Nottingham in colour is based. Photography secrets will be shared!

Bygone Shops of Nottingham walk with Chris Weir

A stroll around Nottingham remembering the old Burtons shop, Griffin & Spalding, Boots, the Co-op...and smaller stores and cafes that people may remember eg. SelectaDisc.



Tour of Woodthorpe Grange Park and Gardens with Paul Swift

A walk round the park and gardens looking at its history including the railway, the old farm, the Grange and the existing nurseries.

Visit to the Newark Heritage Barge "The Leicester Trader" with Les Reid

Les will show us round the barge moored at Newark Riverside park and give a talk on its history and his exciting life afloat.



William Ruff – The Gunpowder Plot.

This talk tells the story of a small brass box (which William owns and will bring along with him) made in 1606 commemorating the 'miracle' of Garnet's Straw.

It incorporates 16th century Catholic persecution, the Gunpowder conspiracy, the life, trial and death of Father Henry Garnet - and the use of priest-holes in such National Trust houses as Baddesley Clinton and Coughton Court.



Michael Harrison - Secrets Below -*Underground with Britain's WW2 War Effort.* Explore the underworld created in Britain to sustain the fight against nazi Germany. Hear the story of the men and women who toiled relentlessly to ensure that the flow of vital war material reached the fighting services; thereby making a massive contribution to ultimate victory.

Watseka Junction to Sea View & Lonely Shack

It was during the long hot summer of 2020 that a virtual rail tour of the locations in the title was contemplated. The tour took place here in the UK where the scene was set on a garden railway. In reality, Watseka Junction is located on the 'Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad' [TW&P] a 247-mile-long 'short line' in the State of Illinois. Family history has revealed that a member of the extended family worked on TP&W

prior to World War Two, interestingly, other family members worked on the Burlington Northern and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroads. By delving deep into imagination, the writer now believes that his love of American railroads is in his genes. Why else would anyone labour long and hard in all weathers and spend handsome sums on rolling stock if there was no higher purpose to these endeavors?



The image shown above is of a 4-6-0 engine of the Denver South Park & Pacific Railroad stopped at Watseka Junction for water and firewood. The Station Agent talks to the crew as he is also removing a stray animal from the tracks. Also note T Rex in the background, it's a weird part of the world. Shown right is the wayside halt of 'Sea View' named so as a reminder to us all who have ever rented a sea view cottage only to be disabused when seeing it for real, that is, nowhere near the sea.



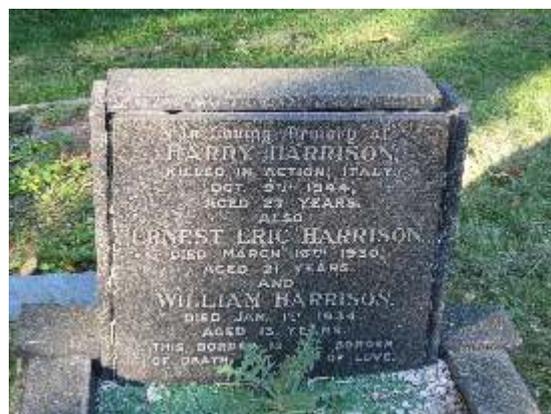
Below right, the trains no longer stop at Lonely Shack except by request; here we see the lady occupant of the shack and the stalwart crew of a Gandy Dancer who have been tasked with clearing the tracks.

You have now reached the end of your short line tour; it is hoped that some of the elusive magic of the Railroad has been conveyed. Imagine if you will, sitting in your garden on a summer's day as the trains trundle sedately by or, after dark when all the buildings and carriages are softly illuminated, the effect is a most relaxing experience and, yours to create. It's also on your doorstep to which as yet no travel restrictions apply.

Michael Harrison

Technical note-scale of the Railroad is 1/27th full size.





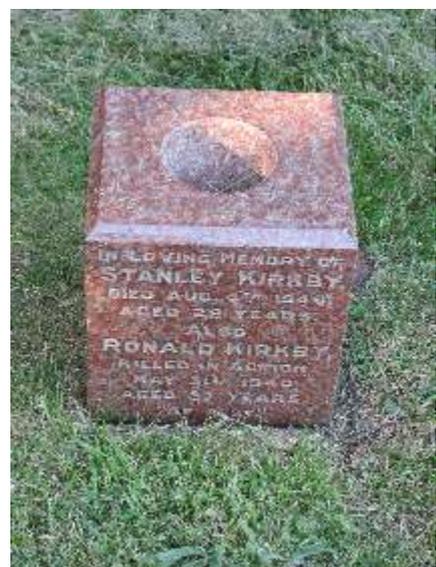
Lockdown Listing - Kay Winfield

For the last few years, Nottingham Family History Association have been photographing and recording monumental inscriptions on gravestones in Nottinghamshire graveyards and cemeteries. Lambley cemetery was photographed in 2018 but had not yet been documented, so I volunteered to do this at the start of lockdown.

It was an interesting project which took much longer than I anticipated as I kept getting side-tracked when I came across an interesting name or wording. There are around 370 graves in the cemetery plus 16 plaques on the wall. The earliest dates back to 1897 and the latest only a few weeks ago. (The graveyard around the Church contains older graves – these were documented by Sheila Mortimer a few years ago). There are many local names on the gravestones whose families still exist in Lambley.

Interesting examples include Cyril Hardy, who was electrocuted at Gedling Colliery in 1919 aged only 16. Harry Harrison was 'Killed in Action' in Italy in 1944. Ronald Kirkby was also 'Killed in Action' in 1940 but Stanley Kirkby died in a motor accident on Spring Lane. The Walkers lost two sons in two months in 1917.

Sadly, one of the things that the project brought home was how parts of the cemetery and some of the old graves had deteriorated since the photos were taken in 2018. The oldest graves are on the right-hand side, but the hedge was getting very overgrown and some graves are disappearing underneath it. One or two graves have also fallen down. I have raised the problem with the Parish Council and some work has been done. Hopefully we will be raising a volunteer party to see what else we can do to remove ivy and weeds.



So, if you want to check if there is a gravestone belonging to your family, please contact me. I will be doing Woodborough cemetery as one of my winter Tier 4 projects.

Other news - The Society's picture database and all records have now been transferred over to the new laptop. With a solid state harddrive and new Windows 10 operating system, it has up to date security (firewall and antivirus software), is much faster, and easy to use compared to our old laptops with XP Windows! A welcome addition to the Society's resources. The archiving of new photographs, videos and records by Kay and John will resume when it is safe to do so.

Chairman's Quiz

21 questions with multiple choice answers - Correct answers on back page - no peeping!

1) Nottingham writer Alan Sillitoe left school at 14 having failed a grammar school entrance exam, his first novel was published 16 years later, what was it called?

- A) The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner
- B) Saturday Night and Sunday Morning
- C) Key to the Door

2) In what year did Brian Clough take over managing Nottingham Forest?

- A) 1977
- B) 1975
- C) 1976



3) Castle Rock Brewery recently took over the old Peggars Inn in Sneinton Market, what was the pub's original name?

- A) Fox and Grapes
- B) Pretty Windows
- C) Fox and Hound

4) What do the D and H in DH Lawrence stand for?

- A) David Henry
- B) David Hugo
- C) David Herbert

5) Ed Balls used to hang out in which Nottingham pub as a teenager?

- A) Tap and Tumbler
- B) Ye old Salutation
- C) The Corner Pin

6) Friar Tuck appears in Disney's 1973 animated version of the legend of Robin Hood, which is he represented by?

- A) Fox
- B) Badger
- C) Bear

7) Goose Fair moved from the Old Market Square to the Forest Recreation in which year?

- A) 1928
- B) 1926
- C) 1935

8) Holme Pierrepont is home the National Water Sports Centre but what does Pierrepont mean?

- A) It's French for 'Stone bridge'
- B) It's French for 'small island'
- C) It's French for 'low-lying' land'

9) Ibuprofen was invented in Nottingham by which man?

- A) Stewart Adams
- B) Edgar Hooley
- C) Frederick Gibson Garton

10) West Bridgford born telly star Leslie Crowther used to present which show?

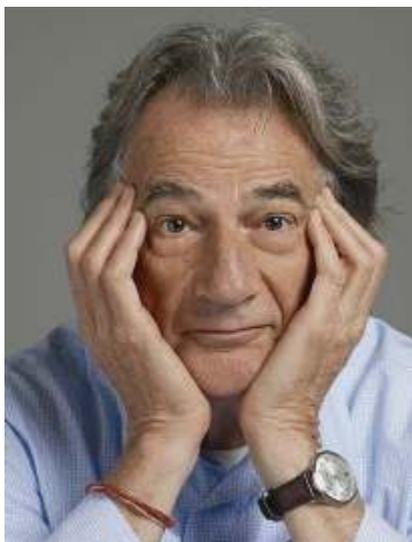
- The Generation Game
- The Price is Right
- Family Fortunes

11) The Old Market Square is the largest square in the UK. How big is it (roughly)?

- A) 30,000m square
- B) 15,000m square
- C) 22,000m square

Continued on next page





12) Nottingham designer Paul Smith is known for his fashion empire but what did he originally want to be when he grew up?

- A) A professional footballer
- B) A professional racing cyclist
- C) A professional rugby player

13) Rock City – which band was originally supposed to be first to headline the venue when it opened in 1980 but were replaced the The Undertones?

- A) Iron Maiden
- B) Black Sabbath
- C) ACDC

14) What is the motto of the University of Nottingham (translated into English)?

- A) We love Robin Hood
- B) Wisdom is help build a city
- C) A city is built on wisdom

15) Wollaton Hall was used to represent a stately home in which 2012 Hollywood blockbuster?

- A) Batman and Robin
- B) The Dark Knight Rises
- C) Batman Begins

16) Much-loved late busker The Xylophone Man (Frank Robinson) could most often be seen playing outside which clothing store?

- A) C&A
- B) Primark
- C) Debenhams

17) Ye Olde Trip To Jerusalem claims to be the oldest inn in the UK stating that it has been in business since 1189AD but the earliest record for a pub on the site is 1751 when it was called what?

- A) The Traveller's Rest
- B) Castle Rock Tavern
- C) The Pilgrim

18) The small Hamlet of Zouch is located in which Nottinghamshire Borough?

- A) Gedling
- B) Rushcliffe
- C) Broxtowe



19). What are the names of the two lion statues Joseph Else sculpted for the Market Square?

- A) Hector and Achilles
- B) Agamemnon and Menelaus
- C) Priam and Ajax

20) Nottingham Playhouse is home to the famous Sky Mirror sculpture. Which artist created it?

- A) Anish Kapoor
- B) Lynn Chadwick
- C) Phillip King

21) Which visitor attraction is purportedly built on Nottingham's oldest site?

- A) The New Art Exchange
- B) Nottingham Contemporary
- C) National Justice Museum

Acknowledgement for the Quiz – Nottingham Evening Post and LeftLion

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2020

Joyce Harrison - Treasurer

With very few transactions this year the two main items were 31 Membership subscriptions £372 and the purchase of a Lap Top £449 taken from the Business Account.

The Balance of Accounts

Main Account £750.81

Business Account £4210.56



A letter from Chris Weir...New Year 2020

May I wish a Happy New Year to All! Let's hope that with the Covid vaccine programme underway that the Pandemic can be finally brought under control and we can gradually return to normal life. I hope all our members have stayed well and look forward to the Society being able to hold meetings and enjoy our outings sometime later this year.

All my talks were cancelled

after the middle of March last year and any heritage projects have either been cancelled or put on 'hold' but I have been out exploring some of our villages around the County on walking trips. It has been a great pleasure. I remember buying a copy of *The Making of The English Landscape* by *W.G.Hoskins (1908-1992)* in the 1960s which really inspired me to wander through local landscapes, looking at field shapes, hedges, 'bumps' in the ground and building materials used in local cottages, farm building and houses. The book was first published in 1955 but ran into many editions. My copy, the 'Seventh Impression' that I bought at Sisson & Parker on Wheeler Gate in 1967, is still on my shelves! Hoskins became the first Professor of Local History, at Leicester University. His book has an account of deserted mediaeval villages (Ingarsby, Cold Newton and the Leicester Abbey manor area) in Leicestershire and straight away after reading these pages I drove out to Leicestershire and then walked over the fields to discover them for myself.

I think one of the strongest impressions from the walks that I have been doing in 2020 has been the transformation of former colliery sites into Country Parks. Of course we have on our doorstep the very popular Gedling Country Park. On the south side of Nottingham is Cotgrave Country Park where trees, grass and wild flowers have now taken the place of the tip areas. The colliery there was begun in the early 60s and hugely expanded the local population. At one time it was one of the most productive pits in the country but it closed in 1993-4. Now it provides a home for wildlife and paths for walkers and cyclists. In village churchyards, especially in the south of the County there are some historic and lovely headstones. Among my favourites are the Swithland slate headstones. Local makers of the headstones include the name of 'Sparrow', sometimes incised into the bottom of the stone and these often include elegant calligraphic work and ornamental designs of very high quality. In walks in many countryside areas I have seen orchids, toad flax, fields of pale blue linseed and hedges of 'sloes'. In woods near Lambley there were wonderful drifts of bluebells.

Last year I was asked by Radcliffe on Trent U3A if I would record a programme (NG30) for Notts TV on my life in the Archives. The programme is 30 minutes and is now available as 'Chris Weir – NG30 On Demand'. I found it was hard to condense everything into half an hour. The U3A is sponsoring this new series which aims to feature people who have Lifetimes of experience in a particular interest, field of work or activity. I did talk about Lambley and my work with the WEA and University Adult Education Department but unfortunately it didn't make the final cut.

This January/February I am doing a series of 3 zoom talks for the Nottingham District WEA titled 'History Under Your Feet: Walking Landscapes'. (21st and 28th Jan and the third session is 4th Feb). I don't suggest particular walk routes but the sessions explore the history of rambling and highlight historical features that can be discovered walking in many parts of the country including Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, the Cotswolds and along the Offa's Dyke Trail.

Well 2020 was quite a year but here's hoping this year will see us return to normal life. I hope to see you soon! **Chris Weir**

????

Charman's Quiz - The Answers:

1-B, 2-B, 3-A, 4-C, 5-A, 6-B, 7-A, 8-A, 9-A, 10-B, 11-C, 12-B, 13-A, 14-C, 15-B, 16-A, 17-C, 18-B, 19-B, 20-A, 21-B.